

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for paging/finding a wireless patient-monitoring device in a wireless local area network (WLAN) network, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining a status of a radio module (RM) of one or more wireless monitoring devices comprising one of a Patient-Wearable Device (PWD) and a Patient-Monitoring Device (PMD), the wireless monitor devices being configured that are adapted for dual-communication with one or more Access Points (AP) and a central-monitoring station in a WLAN, wherein an overall status of the PWD/PMD comprises one of a plurality of meta-states;

(b) selecting a particular PWD/PMD for receipt of wireless transmission of a signal for changing a meta-state of the device to a desired state if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD is not in the desired state; and,

(c) activating an audial-code function of the particular PWD/PMD by transmitting an instruction signal to the particular PWD/PMD to emit a predetermined first audial-code that can be heard at least by a patient being monitored by the particular PWD/PMD.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) causes the particular PWD/PMD to emit a specific tone which provides an instruction for the patient to contact a nurse.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) causes the particular PWD/PMD to play a prerecorded/preprogrammed message to the patient.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the audial code in step (c) comprises a page/find function comprising a second audial code played by the particular PWD/PMD wherein said second audial code is of a volume sufficient to permit personnel that are unaware of the wireless device's location to locate the wireless device by listening for the second audial code.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining of the status in step (a) of an RM of one or more wireless devices occurs by polling the one or more Access Points via unicasting.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining of the status in step (a) of an RM of one PWD/PMD occurs by polling the one or more Access Points via point of call (PIC) based broadcasting.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the RM of one or more PWD/PMDs uses a Wireless Medical Telemetry System WLAN digital enhanced cordless telecommunication (DECT)-based protocol.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the overall status of the plurality of meta-states of the PWD/PMD in step (a) includes operational, standby, sleep, active, locked, seeking, inactive, PIC-associated, PIC-unassociated, PIC-connected, PIC-Unconnected, AP-associated, AP-unassociated, active timing, and inactive timing ~~and a designated out-of-range state if the particular PWD/PMD selected in step (a) does not respond.~~

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the meta-state in step (b) of the RM of the particular PWD/PMD is changed to an active state.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the meta-states further include: Internet Protocol (IP)-aware, IP-unaware, booting and rebooting.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the PWD/PMD periodically broadcasts the status to the one or more Access Points if the device has not been polled by a predetermined amount of time.

12-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim [[12]] 21, wherein the central station [[105]] and the plurality of [[AP's]] APs poll a status of the PWD/PMD via a PIC based broadcast.

17-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A page/find system for wireless medical monitoring devices comprising:

a central-monitoring station configured for [[dual]] bi-directional-communication with a plurality of access points or one or more wireless monitoring devices in a wireless local area network (WLAN);

the one or more wireless monitoring devices comprising at least one of a patient-wearable device (PWD) and a patient-monitoring device (PMD), the monitoring devices having a plurality of meta-states and that are adapted for dual-communication configured to communicate bi-directionally with the access points;

wherein the one or more wireless monitoring devices comprise a radio module (RM) configured to communicate with at least one of the central-monitoring station or the access points;

wherein the central-monitoring station is configured to select a particular PWD/PMD for receipt of a wireless transmission of a change meta-state signal to change the particular PWD/PMD to a desired state to send the change meta-state transmission and a page/find signal to the particular PWD/PMD; and

wherein the particular PWD/PMD is configured to receive the change meta-state signal and change the meta-state of the particular PWD/PMD if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD is not in the desired state and to receive the page/find signal and to activate the particular PWD/PMD to emit an audio signal in response to the received page/find message.

22. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim [[20]] 21, wherein the audio signal emitted by the particular PWD/PMD comprises a tone or message that indicates to call a nurse or medical personnel.

23. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim [[20]] 21, wherein the audio signal is sufficiently loud enough to permit personnel within a facility to locate the particular PWD/PMD.

24. (Currently Amended) A patient monitoring device comprising:
a radio module configured for dual-communication with at least one of a central monitoring stations or a plurality of access points;

a processor configured to determine a meta-state of the radio module of the monitoring device and upon reception of a change meta-state signal transmitted from the at least one of a central monitoring stations or a plurality of access points change the meta-state of the monitoring device in accordance with the change meta-state signal ~~if the meta-sate is not in a desired state~~;

wherein the processor comprises an audial-code function configured to activate an audio activation signal upon reception of a page/find message transmitted [[by]] from at least one of a central monitoring stations or a plurality of access points; and

a speaker to emit a audio signal upon reception of the audio activation signal.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for paging/finding a wireless patient-monitoring device in a wireless local area network (WLAN) network, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining a status of a radio module of one or more wireless monitoring devices comprising at least one of a Patient-Wearable Device and a Patient-Monitoring Device (PWD/PMD) ~~that are adapted for dual-communication configured to communicate bi-directionally~~ with one or more Access Points and a central-monitoring station in [[a]] the WLAN, wherein an overall status of the PWD/PMD comprises one of a plurality of meta-states including at least one of operational, standby, sleep, active, and inactive states, ~~determining and wherein determining~~ the status of the radio module ~~including~~ includes polling one or more of the access points;

(b) selecting a particular PWD/PMD for receipt of wireless transmission of a signal for changing a meta-state of the device to the active state if a current state of the particular PWD/PMD is not in the active state;

(c) activating an audial-code function of the particular PWD/PMD by transmitting an instruction signal to the particular PWD/PMD to emit a predetermined first audial-code that can be heard at least by a patient being monitored by the particular PWD/PMD, the audial code including a page/find function comprising a second audial code played by the particular PWD/PMD wherein said audial code is of a volume sufficient to permit personnel that are unaware of the wireless device's location to locate the wireless device by listening for the second audial code; and

wherein the PWD/PMD periodically broadcasts the status to the one or more Access Points if the device has not been polled by a predetermined amount of time.